

Message Text

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21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /034 W
----- 110475

R 061320Z FEB 76 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7611
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY MBABANE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS GABORONE 0202

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, AO, BC

SUBJECT: BOTSWANA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS DECLARE SUPPORT FOR MPLA

REF: GABORONE A-07 (NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING TO THE FEBRUARY 6 EDITION OF THE GOVERNMENT-PUBLISHED BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS, STUDENTS AT THE GABORONE CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BOTSWANA, LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND (UBL) HAVE EXPRESSED QUOTE SOLIDARITY END QUOTE WITH COUNTRIES THAT HAVE RECOGNIZED THE MPLA AND HAVE URGED THE GOVERNMENT TO QUOTE RECONSIDER ITS STAND ON THE ANGOLAN ISSUE END QUOTE. ARTICLE QUOTES STUDENTS REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC) PRESIDENT KENNETH MANUNGO AS STATING THAT THIS DECISION WAS TAKEN AT A QUOTE GENERAL STUDENTS MEETING END QUOTE FEBRUARY 4.

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WM ARTICLE IS CRITICAL OF SOUTH AFRICA, NATO COUNTRIES WHO ARE

QUOTE FORMER COLONIZERS AND THE PRESENT DAY NEO-COLONIALISTS END
QUOTE, AND US WHOSE INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA IS QUOTE AS AN QUOTE
ATTEMPT TO PERPETUATE ECONOMIC AIMS IN THE FORM OF EXPLOITATION
OF THE ANGOLAN WEALTH END QUOTE.

3. THE ARTICLE NOTES THAT AS TRANSMITTED REFAIR, THE BNF HAD
RECENTLY CHALLENGED STUDENTS TO QUOTE TELL US THEIR STAND ON THE
ANGOLAN ISSUE END QUOTE. IN REFERENCE TO THESE CALLS, THE STUDENTS
REPORTEDLY WARNED THE BNF NOT TO USE QUOTE STUDENTS AS THEIR
POLITICAL TOOL END QUOTE.

4. COMMENT: ASIDE FROM THE BNF ITSELF WHICH HAS RECOGNIZED
THE MPLA VIRTUALLY SINCE INDEPENDENCE OF ANGOLA, THIS IS THE
FIRST PUBLIC STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO THE GOVERNMENT S POSITION
WHICH CALLS FOR A GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY IN ANGOLA.

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